



Matthew S. Olesh

PARTNER

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LOCATED IN

Philadelphia, PA

MEET MATT

“I recognize that while our job as attorneys is primarily about getting results, it is just as important for your attorney to provide excellent customer service. I am proud to say that I do both for my clients.”

— Matthew S. Olesh

PHILADELPHIA COMMERCIAL LITIGATION ATTORNEY

Matt Olesh is a partner in Obermayer’s Litigation Department. While Matt’s litigation experience spans the gamut of clients, subjects and size, he focuses on high-stakes, complex commercial disputes – “bet the company” litigation. His work has ranged from representing companies and their directors/officers in contractual disputes to defeating injunctions of multi-million dollar transactions and projects to defending against consumer class-action lawsuits.

Matt’s approach to litigation is a holistic one – the legal issues with which he works are always part of a larger picture. He strives to thoroughly understand his clients’ business and strategic situation, and serves as both an advocate and a trusted advisor. His goal is to simultaneously resolve the immediate dispute and anticipate and avoid future issues. He excels at assembling the varying pieces of a strategic puzzle and arriving at a workable, cost-effective solution.

An essential element of Matt’s practice is service. Whether a client is a large corporate entity, small business or an individual, Matt emphasizes accessibility, responsiveness and careful listening as essential tools for a good attorney. While results are critical, they’re not alone sufficient – ongoing, attentive and professional service is also necessary.

Matt strongly believes in the importance and value of pro bono work. He routinely volunteers his time with a number of legal service organizations in Philadelphia to help those in need of assistance. Beyond pro bono, Matt also works in his spare time to give back to his neighborhood, the legal community, and

the City of Philadelphia. He can often be found volunteering at his son's neighborhood public school and has served as part of the Philadelphia Bar Association's leadership since 2016.

To unwind, Matt can be found having a catch with his son or relaxing with his wife on the stoop of his Philadelphia rowhouse with a drink and good music. He enjoys all types of craft beer and whiskey, and has curated whiskey and beer tastings. He also loves exploring the City's ever-changing food scene with his family.

EXPERIENCE

Commercial litigation is a complex, often ongoing, and varied legal specialty. As a result, Matt has played a variety of roles as a litigator. He has acted as both an aggressive advocate for his clients' interests and a sophisticated, astute negotiator, often in the course of the same matter. He is a skilled project manager, resulting in exceptional efficiency and cost-effectiveness. He's also a gifted writer, both of formal legal material and persuasive business and non-legal content.

Matt's specific accomplishments include:

- Successfully defending the City of Philadelphia's Beverage Tax against legal challenges in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court and Pennsylvania Supreme Court.
- Obtaining the dismissal of claims brought under the federal RICO Act and 42 U.S.C. § 1983 in a complex, multi-party case alleging a conspiracy between local government officials and the operators of a professional soccer team.
- Defeating a request for an injunction of a \$150 million construction project at the Curtis Center.
- Defending prominent recording artists against copyright infringement claims.
- Defeating a request for an injunction of the Harleysville/Nationwide insurance company merger.
- Advising a senior corporate executive regarding alleged misappropriation of trade secrets.

NEWS & INSIGHTS

From The Legal Intelligencer: Obermayer Extends Hiring Spree, Adds Municipal Services Niche

July 25, 2019 by Thomas S. Wyatt, Nathan D. Fox, Kellie A. McGowan, W. Patrick Scott, Matthew S. Olesh, David A. Nasatir

Matt Olesh presents ABA Webinar on "The Complex Commercial Case in Arbitration"

July 21, 2019 by Matthew S. Olesh

From The Legal Intelligencer: Obermayer Adds Business Lawyers From Chamberlain Hrdlicka, MacElree Harvey

June 20, 2019 by W. Patrick Scott, Matthew S. Olesh

ACTIVITIES & HONORS

Matt's pro bono work defines who he is as both an attorney and a person. He volunteers with [Philadelphia VIP](#), the [Pennsylvania Innocence Project](#), the [Prisoner Civil Rights Panel](#) of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, [Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity](#), and other legal service organizations. Matt also strongly believes in second chances and helping those who may have made mistakes but have paid their debt to society. In addition to personally helping clients who seek expungements and pardons, Matt helped organize a citywide expungement clinic that enabled

hundreds of individuals to obtain expunged records.

Matt is extensively involved in a wide range of professional organizations. He is currently the Assistant Treasurer of the [Philadelphia Bar Association](#) (and previously served as Chair of its [Young Lawyers Division](#)) and the Co-Chair of [Philadelphia VIP's](#) Recruitment and Retention Committee. He was in the inaugural class of, and now helps administer, the Philadelphia Bar Foundation's Board Observer Program. He's active with several nonprofits, presently serving as a Director of the [Lawyer's Club of Philadelphia](#) and previously co-founding and serving as a Director of the [Friends of Chester A. Arthur School Education Foundation](#). Matt has also served as a Committee person in the 30th Ward Democratic Executive Committee in Philadelphia since 2014.

In addition, Matt serves as the vice chair of the [Campaign for Qualified Judges](#). In that capacity, he helps promote the ratings assigned to candidates for local judicial office by the Philadelphia Bar Association's Commission on Judicial Selection and Retention. Matt organizes citywide voter outreach initiatives both in advance of and on Election Day, supervising nearly one hundred volunteers at polling places in all parts of Philadelphia.

In 2019, Matt received the Philadelphia Bar Association Chancellor's Service Award in recognition of his efforts and impact in his role on the Campaign for Qualified Judges. Matt was also named one of [Billy Penn's Who's Next](#): Law honorees and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation in 2017.

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania Law School, JD

Emory University, BA

ADMISSIONS

New Jersey

New York

Pennsylvania

Third Circuit Court of Appeals

United States District Court for the District of New Jersey

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

CAPABILITIES

Litigation

Appellate
Commercial Litigation
Insurance

Government & Public Policy

Election Law
Government Relations

Labor & Employment

Employment Litigation
Internal Investigations

Business & Finance

Real Estate
Zoning & Land Use

Industry Focus

Financial Services
Health Care
Individuals & Private Clients
International Businesses
Local Governments & Municipal Authorities
Nonprofit Organizations
Universities & Secondary Schools